

REMARKS

Consideration of the following remarks in connection with the patent application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 20 remain in this application. No claims have been cancelled, withdrawn, or added by this paper.

The claims submitted with this continuation patent application (a continuation of U.S. patent application no. 09/591,796) are submitted to be supported by the original disclosure of the parent patent application. In particular, claim 1 finds support in, for example, claims 1 and 13 of the parent patent application. Claim 2 finds support, for example, in the specification at page 12, lines 19 et seq. Claim 3 finds support, for example, in the specification at page 12, lines 21 et seq. Claim 4 finds support at page 12, lines 22 et seq. Claim 5 finds support at page 13, lines 22 et seq. Claim 6 finds support at page 13, lines 23 et seq.

Claim 7 finds support, for example, in claims 1 and 3 of the original application. Claim 8 finds support in the specification at page 13, lines 26 et seq. Claim 9 finds support in the specification at page 14, lines 2 et seq. Claim 10 finds support at pages 14, lines 10 et seq. Claim 11 finds support at page 14, lines 19 et seq. Claim 12 finds support at page 14, lines 25 et seq.

Claim 13 finds support, for example, in claims 1 and 4 of the parent application. Claim 14 finds support in the claim 1 of the parent patent application. Claim 15 finds support, for example, in the specification of the application at page 15, lines 7 et seq. Claim 16 finds support at page 15, lines 11 et seq. Claim 17 finds support at page 16, lines 22 et seq. Claim 18 finds support at page 16, lines 24 et seq. Claim 19 finds support in the specification at page 16, lines 6 et seq. Claim 20 finds support at page 17, lines 20 et seq.

Appln. No. (unassigned)

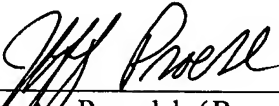
The above indications of support in the original disclosure for the subject matter of the claims of this continuation application are considered to be merely exemplary, and other portions of the original disclosure may also provide such support for these claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, early consideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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